Appl. No.: 10/643,780 Filed: August 19, 2003

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Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An unpowered apparatus comprising:

a flexible material having low permeability to a lighter than air gas, the flexible material defining a chamber;

at least one structured-structural member coupled to the flexible material such that when the chamber is filled with the gas to a known level, the apparatus is substantially neutrally buoyant under ambient conditions-; and

a valve to seal the chamber to maintain the known level during use.

- (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 a sleeve coupled to the flexible material to retain the at least one structured structural member.
- 3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the structural member defines at least a portion of a shape of the chamber.
- 4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the sleeve is heat welded to the flexible material.
- 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the sleeve and the flexible material are a same material.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The An apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

 a flexible material having low permeability to a lighter than air gas, the flexible material defining a chamber;

at least one structural member coupled to the flexible material such that when the chamber is filled with the gas to a known level, the apparatus is substantially neutrally buoyant under ambient conditions; and

a plurality of flexible strips coupled to the flexible material to retain at least one structural member adjacent to the flexible material.